



The Great White Dragon

An allegory for all the ages

Prologue

Our following story begins at a certain time and place, but in no wise is it said to belong to any particular place or time.

What can be said of the setting is simply that it takes place in a certain far off and eastern land somewhere in the world. Our chief character throughout the story is a man by the name of Manu.(who has no relation in particular to the one who's legend survives in ancient Indian texts). We call him so, simply because the name fits him the best.

Manu was a humble man who lived in the valleys between great and lofty peaks of his native country. He was a cunning artificer of great stone works, and as he built many structures of fine and artistic quality - so perfect in his craft was he, that many men had employed him to build their homes and palaces. He was well pleased with his lot in life. Though he was humble, he was not without dignity and honor. He was also a loner and did not have many friends, or even family whom he spent much time with, and certainly he never drew much attention to himself out in the world.

Once there came a time when he was invited to join a secret fraternity known as the brothers of "TGWD"- which stands for -"The Great White Dragon". These men had seen great virtue in Manu, and desired that he join them. Surely enough after much consideration, Manu had graciously accepted their offer, and was sworn in as a brother on the eve of the darkest day of the year- the winter solstice. Such ceremony was the tradition of the society of TGWD.

After passing through the initial stages of the mystic practices of the order, he quickly progressed through the various degrees that required him to master a specific art, science, moral and philosophic principles. When the time finally came for him, having arrived at the last degree, he was instructed by the elder sage, who gave him the secret password he would need for the final and greatest trial that was yet in store for him.

It was in the secret lodge of the society that Manu was prepared to embark on his quest- of the details he knew very little, except that it required him to climb the Great Mountain of the world, and meet a mysterious figure at the summit whom would show him the last secret to be learned. This figure was simply known as the Great White Dragon.

Of the tools that were required of his journey, there was none, except his esoteric training and his great virtue would alone serve him as a means to reach the summit by the seventh day, alive and in good health. Not even food nor water was given to him, he would have to rely solely on his great faith that he would go without starving or become thirsty. For he would indeed be tested in more ways than are imaginable- he begins his quest.

Chapter I. The Pathway into Where the fool dares to tread.

The sun rose on the first day of his journey. As he arrived at the base of the great mountain, he was faced with three pathways that would take him higher and higher. The path to his right was greatly rocky and magnificent trees of evergreen were in his path. The path in the middle of the others, seemed to ascend upwards quite smoothly, but was teeming with all sorts of wild animals that were a threat to his safety. To the left of him, the path was not ascending upwards, but downward instead, into the nether regions of the valleys below.

Manu was perplexed at first on which path he would take. He saw that by taking the steep and impassible path to his right would only delay and hinder his progress.

If on the other hand he took the path to his left that lead downward, he would be defeating his purpose of the mission.

Alas, he found himself no choice but to go through the path in front of him that was infested with all kinds of wild beast- this was the path he chose. He traveled along the path, all the time he did, he was threatened to be devoured by the animals- great cats and poisonous serpents were everywhere! He grew faint halfway along, and was afraid he would never get through this complex labyrinth of beasts. When at last he was confronted by a whole host of them, it was then that he remembered the secret word. He had faith in the word, he could hear a still small voice well up inside him - "Don't be afraid, nor give in, for I am with you".

And so he spoke the sacred mantra-

"AUM-NAMAH-SHIVAYA",

and immediately the beasts stopped their assault on him, and they retreated to the sides of the path to make way for Manu.

Manu so astonished by what just happened, froze in amazement. How could all these beasts lay aside their ravenous ways and be still? Well before he had time to think about it, suddenly a

great goat-like creature that was part man, and goat appeared on the path, and announced to Manu, the following -

"Behold, O' Man, why does thou seek to finish the path?"

And Manu replied-

"I seek to meet the great white dragon who lives at the summit."

Then said the goat-man,-

"What makes you think I should let you pass?"

Manu replied-

"Because I will not allow your fellow friends here to impede my progress."

And the goat-man replied-

"Behold, you have a strong will that even I can respect, therefore I shall let you pass, but before I do, I wish to grant to you a gift."

Manu then asked-

"What is your name, and why do you want to give me a gift?"

And the goat-man replied saying-

"I am that great spirit that dwells in the wilderness who hath been named Azazel- that spirit which roams without reason or cause. I want to give you a gift because it will serve thee well in your quest."

And he gave him a red velvet bag, and inside it was a rough stone that had a salty-like texture to it. Upon the stone was written the following-

"NATURE WITHOUT REASON."

And also inside the bag was a necklace of four red-petals of the lotus flower strung about it, which Manu wore.

Manu thanked the spirit of the wilderness, and he was finally able to continue on the journey.

When night set in, Manu rested his head upon the stone and meditated. He prayed the following prayer before he went to sleep-

"My father who art within, grant me courage from thine heart, wisdom from thine mind, and strength by thy hand!"

He slept dreamless until dawn.

Thus was the end of the first day.

Chapter II. The city of tarnished jewels .

*T*he sun rose on the second day. It was morning and Manu got up and went about his

way up the mountainside. About midday he grew ever slightly thirsty, but he knew that he could not drink any liquid of any kind whatsoever. Further along the path he came to a great city that was on a plateau and he could not pass any further without going through the city. He was disheartened, but he went onwards into it, unbeknownst to him what was inside.

Inside the city he was immediately met by all scenes of indecency and obscene and vile acts were being performed out in the open for all to see, and all manner of corruption and evil abounded within. Manu could hardly stand the sight of it all, but alas, the pathway lead him no other way than by going through the city.

He grew more thirsty as the sight of fine wines were scattered about on tables before him as he went up the city streets. Eventually his thirst grew so great at one point he was tempted to take just a small drink- but he could not! For in doing so he would fail at his mission. Manu was once again disheartened, it was then that he remembered the word, and the voice within him welled up again, and said-

"Just remain patient and calm, speak the word again."

And Manu spoke the mantra again- and all the activity in the city ceased. It was as if everyone was frozen in time.

Suddenly there then appeared on the path a great and intimidating woman, clothed in orange and wore a necklace of orange colored petals of the lotus flower, and she spoke to him saying-

"Just what have you done to my city?! Don't you know who I am? For I am the great queen of this city, how dare you stop us all from our ceaseless feasting on the bread and wine that I myself have so prepared for my citizens!"

And Manu replied-

"This city lies in my way of the path to find the great white dragon who lives at the top of the summit. The word which I've uttered forth has put a stop to all thy iniquities, you must now move out of my way at once!"

And the woman replied-

"I know why you have come, but I will not move until you take a drink of my wine."

The woman offered a drink of an intoxicating quality to Manu, but seeing that this was a trap and plot to sabotage his quest, Manu then replied to the woman saying-

"I will not partake of such worldly affairs. You must get out of my way by the power of that word which I spoke."

The woman staggered backwards, as if injured by Manu's word, and just as she was about to fall over the cliff into the abyss below, she cast off her necklace of six orange colored lotus petals, and it landed next to the feet of Manu. He went to pick it up, and as he did, the woman screamed out and wailed a curse at him, and fell down into the abyss, crashing into the jagged rocks below.

Manu put on the necklace, and was once again in awe at what he had just witnessed. The sun was setting, the path now clear, he went onwards up the great mountain.

When night had fallen he examined the red velvet bag again, and pulled out the rough stone and he peered at it and noticed that something new had occurred to it- a new phrase was written upon it, and it said-

"UNCULTIVATED DESIRE."

Manu was so amazed, he gave thanks to his father within by saying his usual prayer, and went into dreamless sleep.

Thus the second day had come to an end.

Chapter III. Feel the power.

The sun rose on the third day of his quest. He awoke considerably hungry, and even more thirsty. He started to climb the path. It was about early afternoon when he came upon a most interesting scene- he saw on the path before him a great table spread out, and many nobleman of earthly things were seated at the table- kings and princes. They were discussing among themselves how they might rule the world, when Manu met them. They stopped talking when they noticed his presence, and there arose among them a great king who greeted Manu by saying -

" We've been expecting someone like you to come along and dine with us at this fine table, we welcome you to join us in our conversation about how we will conquer the world and all the inhabitants thereof."

And Manu replied-

" I do not wish to join in such in such vain and selfish endeavors, I only seek to continue along this path to meet the Great White Dragon who lives at the top of the summit."

And the great king replied-

"And just what makes you think there even is a great white dragon at the summit of this great mountain of the world? Look here before yourself, we are great and mighty rulers of the earth, we need not believe in fairy tales, we have everything that we desire right here. Come and join us in our feast, the host is about to come and serve us our banquet."

And Manu replied-

"No, I am on a most important quest, for my purpose is much higher than the things you kings of material wealth can offer me, and I care not what you may think to be true of the dragon, and I must go on and meet him. Therefore I will not partake in your feast and vain dreams of power."

Just then the host appeared and carried a great platter upon which the feast was prepared for the kings and princes, and served it to them.

Then the great king said to Manu-

" We will let you pass to continue on your fruitless journey, but only if you eat of this fine bread and drink of the wine prepared for us by the great queen of the city of jewels , now come! We see you are famished and quenched from your journey."

Manu then said-

"Behold! Your queen is dead, I saw her fall down into the great abyss, she no longer runs her schemes and evil devices. Your bread and wine is a lie!"

The kings grew angry with Manu after he had proclaimed these things, and looked as if they were about to pounce on him and kill him. But Manu heard the voice within him say-

"Use the power of the word."

Just as they were approaching him, he uttered the mantra again with bold firmness, and the kings fell down in their seats and froze as if dead. The great king reached into his royal robe, and pulled out a necklace, this time of ten yellow petals of the lotus flower, and as he reached out clutching the necklace for dear life, and he fell dead and lifeless.

Manu then went over to his body and picked up the necklace, and wore it around his neck. Now the path was at last clear and open, and Manu went his way upward until night fell. Before he lay down to sleep, he peered into the red velvet bag once again, and discovered a new engraving was upon it that said-

"ILL REGULATED WILL."

Manu prayed and gave thanks, he fell asleep, dreamless. it began to snow...and thus the third day had come to an end.

Chapter IV. A friend in need.

*T*he sun rose on the fourth day. Manu awoke to the sensation of being rather cold. When he opened his eyes, he saw that it was snowing quite fiercely and the sky was white, as well as the ground. He began to go about his quest. For a good portion of the day he battled against the elements as he climbed ever higher. He had made it to the midway point by now, but the trials before him would be great.

It was late afternoon when Manu came across a stranger on the path. Manu saw that he was in agony due to the cold, and he was laying there on the ground shivering. The man lacked a coat to protect him from the cold. He cried out to Manu-

"Look here, over here! I am dying in this cold, will thou help me by giving me that coat which you wear?"

Manu, so disturbed by this sight, rushed over to the man and said to him-

"My good sir, I see that you are near death, I will gladly offer up my coat and sacrifice my own comfort for your survival."

And the man replied -

"Behold! My brother of the great white dragon, I was traveling along this very same route as you are on, and with the same quest as you, to meet the great one who lives at the summit, when out of nowhere three thieves attacked me, and stole my own coat from me, beware! They are ahead along the path."

And he continued saying-

"I am a member of the Great White Dragon society, a fellow craftsman much as yourself, blessed are you, O' Manu, for I give you now a gift in return for saving my life."

And the man took off of himself a necklace with twelve green petals of the lotus flower, and gave it to Manu, placing it around his head. Then the he said -

"Faith, Hope, and Charity my brother! Remember these virtues for they will serve thee well."

And Manu gave thanks to the man, and they embraced each other in a brotherly way. Finally the man said -

"I will meet, and be with you at the top of the summit with the *others*, peace be with you, Manu."

And the man then quickly raced up the mountainside, faster than Manu could follow. Manu felt a new sense of vigor and strength regenerating inside himself, for it was enough to make him forget about his hunger, thirst, and cold.

Night was falling, and Manu was about to lay down to sleep, but before he did, he looked at the rough stone once more, and surely enough, a new inscription was upon it, and it read -"LOVE IS THE LAW, NO LAW BUT LOVE."

Manu gave thanks, and prayed to his father within. He went to sleep- but this time he had a dream...and in the dream he saw a great crowd gathering, and looking at the sky, they sung songs of of awe and wonder- the sight which they were looking at was all the stars in the great vault of heaven were dancing around in fluid-like motions. Than Manu woke up from the vision, the fifth day was upon him.

And thus came the end of the fourth day.

Chapter V. The unworthy craftsmen.

The sun rose on the fifth day. Manu got up and continued on his journey upwards. He was hungry, thirsty and cold, but nevertheless, he pushed on with a great will to see an end to his long quest, and to meet the great white dragon. He climbed, and climbed, all day long in fact. It was early evening by the time Manu was getting ready to take a rest, when suddenly out of nowhere, three men surrounded him and would not allow him pass any further. They wore cloaks and were armed with weapons which they intended to assail Manu with.

They spoke to Manu, declaring-

"We were once members of the great white dragon society, but when we found out the path to the dragon was too hard to follow, we stopped here, and became thieves seeking other aspiring journeyers to rob and kill. Now we see you are tired and hungry. We seek to steal your necklaces of many colors."

Manu froze in fear, and before he could open his mouth, he was struck upon the throat with a rod, so aggressive was the assault that he could not speak in a loud voice anymore, but only whisper in a soft tone.

Just as the thieves were about to strike him again, they laughed mockingly at him and said-

"Now comes an end to your aspirations to meet the dragon, and to your quest, how sad it is to be you!"

And then just as one of the evil men were about to pierce Manu with a sword, it was then that Manu heard the voice inside him say -

" Word, remember the word."

And Manu whispered under his breath the sacred mantra -

"AUM-NAMAH-SHIVAYA."

And then suddenly the weapons the men held in their hands became poisonous serpents, and attacked the three thieves with fierce bites of wrath against them. The thieves fell dead and Manu was spared his life. He found among their bodies sixteen sky blue colored lotus petals and a necklace to attach them to, and he put it on. So astonished was he at the power of the word, he asked himself-

"Just what is this strange and mysterious word which was given to me that makes all things fall dead before me, yet I myself do not die? Glory to this word!"

And Manu got up and left the area in great haste, and set up camp once again, for now it was night. He looked at the stone yet again, and Behold! A new phrase was inscribed upon it, saying-

"MASTERY OF THE SELF WILL."

Manu was literally speechless, for now he suffered injury from the attack, and he could hardly speak, but faithful as he always was, he whispered and thought out the prayer he usually said, and gave thanks.

He went to bed, and dreamed...and in the dream he saw himself on the summit which he had yet to see in waking life, and about his head was a crown of white gold radiance, and he heard a voice say-

"Though The world has forgotten , unto those I love, shall I reveal myself and crown thee with divine perfection, though I was slain, I still yet live."

Manu awoke and dawn was approaching.

Thus was the end of the fifth day.

Chapter VI. Blind, but now I see.

The sun rose on the sixth day. Manu got up, and here at last he could feel the journey coming to a close end. He raced as fast as he could all day long up the mountainside. Yes, all day he fought against hunger, thirst, cold, and now pain, for he was now very sore where the would-be killers had attacked him.

From this elevation he could see all the valleys below, for now it had stopped snowing, and the clouds were parallel to the side of the mountain.

Manu at last came just as evening was well underway to a great temple, magnificent was it. Two great columns guarded the entryway inside and the light of torches burning illuminated the whole exterior of the temple. On top of the two columns were globes- one terrestrial, the other celestial, and above the entrance was inscribed the following-

" GRAND TEMPLE, EVERLASTING HOUSE OF THE THOUSAND PETAELED LOTUS."

Manu entered between the two pillars. Once inside, he took a look around. It was very ornately decorated with all sorts of mystical symbols and hieroglyphs, and was very spacious, and he saw a small pool of bubbling water. He also saw that incense was being burnt all about the floor- the lovely aroma of sandalwood filled the entire structure, and produced a kind of purple fog which made seeing rather difficult, especially if there hadn't been lamps or candles hanging from the walls and the ceiling. Manu was in awe at the serenity of this place.

Suddenly two high-priest, robed in White appeared , and they greeted Manu, saying-

"Welcome to the everlasting house of the thousand petaled lotus, we've been expecting you for a long time now, and know what you seek- entryway through that great door which leads to the holy of holies, but before ye may enter, we must first prepare you to meet the great white dragon who dwells behind that door."

And Manu replied-

"What must be done in order that I may gain entry?"

And the priest replied-

"You must remove your garments and bathe in the pool that lies before you. You must cleanse yourself of all impurity, and put on a white robe of fine linen as we ourselves wear, but before you do all theses things, there is one last thing that must be done."

"And what is that?"

Said Manu. The priest replied-

"You must allow us to place two indigo colored lotus petals on your eyes, and with hot rods shall they be emblazoned on your eyes which have not yet received the true sight."

Manu asked-

"What is this true sight?"

"You will come to know it, just as everyone who has made it this far on the great journey has." Said the priest.

Manu laid upon the floor and let the priest apply the hot - burning petals of the flower to be placed over his eyes. At first the burning sensation was rather intense, but then faded away faster than he realized. He could not see anything at first, as he could not open his eyes due to the stinging pain. He was then lead by the hands of the priest to the cleansing pool, where before he was submerged, the priest said-

"Speak the mantra one more time, this time say only the monosyllable."

And he did as he was submerged. He resurfaced after about thirty seconds, got out, dried off, and put on his new robe, for now he could see again.

At first Manu noticed he could not see anything special...yet. He was then lead into the holy place where he would sleep until dawn the next day, for tomorrow was the final day.

The holy place was a chamber that was like a great hall, very wide and spacious. Manu gave thanks, looked into the red velvet bag once more to examine the rough stone, and he saw inscribed upon it in ethereal light the words -

"EYE OF THE TRUE SEER."

And he was in awe that he could now see colors which he had been previously not seen. He said his prayer silently, the same one he always prayed, in s soft whisper -

"O' great father who art within, grant me courage from thine heart, wisdom from thy mind, and strength by thine hand!"

He went to sleep...and not soon after he had blacked out, was he suddenly awoken, and could feel himself being as light as the air. He looked around the chamber and noticed that he was not alone.

For as if coming out of the walls themselves, there was a host of beings in glowing radiance of shining light. There was many of them, and they all looked like human beings whom could fly at will. Manu got up from the floor and walked over to them, when one of them called him out by name saying-

"Manu, behold! We are the great adepts and sages of all the ages and world over, both past, present, and future. We have been waiting and watching for your arrival, and are here to assist you in unlocking that great door over there, but before the time comes we want you to meet someone very special whom will give you the keys."

Manu was then lead by the being of light to another great being, whom looked quite distinguished and noble , for he reached over to Manu, grabbed his shoulder, and introduced himself as a father of a nation yet unborn. And then he said-

"Manu, warm greetings, and blessed are you, for you've gained the sight of true vision, otherwise you wouldn't have been able to see me, or any of us for that matter. I myself am here to show you a great mystery which is concealed in symbolism, which will one day be revealed to all who see it."

He continued saying-

"Manu, reach into that red velvet bag of yours, and pull out that which is inside."

Manu did as he said and put his hand into the bag and pulled out two circular disks of ethereal light, and upon them he saw a diagram of an unfinished pyramid-like structure, which lacked a capstone to finish it off, and saw that it was made of seventy-two stones, in rows of thirteen layers. On the other diagram he saw a great bird with its wings outstretched, reaching towards heaven. Then the being said to Manu-

" What you see before you is that mystery yet to be revealed, but for you it shall be made known."

He continued-

"The pyramid which you see represents with its seventy-two stones the base and elemental nature of a man, of which a man is to become master of the elemental nature of his LOWER-SELF before he can liberate his TRUE SELF from that very elemental tomb which inside dwells the HIGHER SELF, sleeping and dormant, waiting to be raised and awakened into new life, by the initiation of the pyramid itself."

He continued -

"When this great work is accomplished, the higher self of a man may soar upwards from the tomb, like a great Phoenix which you see on the other disk, and rise heaven-ward towards its true home, which is in the world above."

And then he said-

"Manu, look at the pyramid and think about yourself, and the event which is about to transpire when you open that locked door. Think about the great mountain of the world you've climbed, the trials you've gone through- it has not been in vain. You have earned the right to go through that door, but know ye this, once you enter, there is no turning back. you must go forward and onward in the face of great adversity. But fear not! For we will be there with you, watching as you meet the great one. Yes Manu, we will be watching always."

And at last he said -

"Manu, in order that you can unlock that door , you must ask that the keys be given to you, there are seven such keys, and each one unlocks a portion of the door."

Manu then with a most sincere prayer, said the following-

"O' higher self who art within, grant me the keys to the kingdom!"

And then out of the air appeared before him, seven keys. Four of them silver, and three of gold. Manu grabbed the keys firmly in his hand, and felt a surge like sensation of higher knowledge being imparted into him. He then stood before the great white door, glowing in a light unlike any other, and all the beings of light were behind him urging him to go forward with courage. He put In the seven keys, the door flung upon, and Manu walked slowly forward out into the opening, and saw that it lead to a large, circular-like space on top of the mountain. He could see in the midst of the circle a rising of the summit, spiraling upward in the shape of a pyramid- like shape. There it was, glimmering in the pre-dawn twilight.

He steps forward to make one last climb...thus came the end of the sixth day, and long night in the hall of mysteries.

Chapter VII. Where giants have fallen...

The sun had not yet risen on the seventh day, it was just about to dawn though, and Manu walked out into the open. As soon as he did this, the beings of light burst forth and ascended skyward to become the morning stars. Manu knew what he must do, he had to climb the steep inclines of the pyramid, get on top of it, and wait and meditate until the Great White Dragon would appear. The height of the pyramid shaped rock was about 33 yards high. Manu climbed it with every fiber of his being, he nearly fell off several times before victory was achieved!

When Manu got to the top, he saw to his amazement not one sun in the sky, but three, glowing bright orange-yellow. He was in awe, but then suddenly out of nowhere, a fourth sun had appeared, and together all four suns were lined up one after the other in a row, just over the eastern horizon. Manu was puzzled beyond belief, what could this strange, mysterious and awe inspiring sight mean? He gazed at the four suns. He then intuitively knew what he must do. He got down and sat in a meditative position, and then the voice inside him whispered to him-"Now is the time, bring forth that which has been waiting for you." He spoke the word one last time, only a whisper came out-

"AUM-NAMAH-SHIVAYA."

And all was silent.

He waited and watched, when suddenly he noticed the ground below the pyramid was becoming rather black, and quite rapidly, and he saw that the blackness was serpents, bursting out of the rocks and ground as if out of nowhere! They were black as midnight and there was millions of them! Then Manu looked up and saw in the sky above him, there appeared a black star, and the star itself was a cluster of serpents spun around, like a thick spool of yarn, and the star was gathering all the serpents on the ground, and they were gathered together in the black

star that was now just in front of Manu. He could almost reach out and touch this black mass of serpents. He watched in horrified awe as the black star began to take to form of a great dragon. But Manu was very perplexed, he thought to himself-

" where is the white dragon? Wasn't I supposed to meet him here, after all my great tribulation!"

No sooner had Manu finished this thought , the black dragon thundered out a magnificent roar, and said unto Manu-

" Manu, the one who hath endured till the end of the long, long journey. At last you've made it to your destination, you have done well in your quest, and are probably wondering why you see a black dragon before you. Fear not! But know ye this, in order to see the Great White Dragon you've longed to behold, you must first prove yourself worthy of seeing him. Now I must ask you the question, what makes thou worthy?"

And Manu trembling, could not reply in any spoken word. Then the dragon said -

" Manu, do not despair if you think I cannot hear you, I hear your thoughts, from now on you may converse and answer to me in your thoughts."

And Manu did as was asked, and he "spoke" in thought the following-

"I Manu, a humble servant and worker of great stone works during my life, was invited to be initiated in the mysteries of the great white lodge of the Dragon I so long have strived to see, on the winter solstice. I learned in that lodge various things concerning the nature of being. Now it came to pass that I advanced up the degrees of the order, and made it to the final degree when I was commissioned to embark on this most treacherous of journeys to meet the one and only Great White Dragon who lives here, on this great summit of all the world."

The dragon replied-

" Yes, go on Manu."

Manu then said -

" on the first day of my journey, I encountered many wild beasts whom challenged my safety and patience. Then I encountered the great goat-man, who called himself Azazel, the great spirit of the wilderness, after having spoke the word unto him and his minions of terror, he offered me a gift as a token of my bravery in passing through his labyrinth of monstrosities. He

gave me a rough stone in a red velvet bag, and also a necklace to be worn, which contained four red petals of the lotus flower. I was then able to proceed on the path."

After Manu had "said" this, the dragon appeared to ever slightly become immobile. Then the dragon said -

"Continue"

- "Then I noticed that evening before I went to bed, words had appeared on my rough stone, that said -

"NATURE WITHOUT REASON"

- "That you did."

Said the dragon. Manu then said -

" on the second day of my journey I encountered a great city of all kinds of abominations and filth unlike any I had seen before, and its leader, the great queen of the city of jewels. I spoke the word, and she fell down to her death into the abyss, and threw at me a necklace of six orange petals of the lotus flower, and that night I saw on my stone the words-

"UNCULTIVATED DESIRE "

" Yes, that you did."

Said the dragon- ever becoming more stationary and the texture of his scales began to harden. Manu continued-

" on the third day of my journey, I encountered a great gathering of kings and princes from all the world over, and they urged me to join them in feasting on things that had no appeal to me, though I was hungry and thirsty, however, I did not give into their trap- I spoke the word, and they all fell dead before me, and out of the robe of their leader was found a necklace of ten yellow lotus petals. That night I looked at the stone again, and it said-

"ILL REGULATED WILL."

" That is true."

said the black dragon , now becoming rock hard and looking rather mellow in his expression, he said-

" Go on"

and Manu continued-

"On the fourth day of my quest I encountered a man lying on the ground, in the cold snow, and crying out to me to save him from the cold, I gave him freely my coat, and he thanked me, and said the following-

" Faith, Hope, and charity my brother! Remember these virtues, for they will serve you well."

" he gave me a necklace of twelve green petals of the lotus- I looked at the stone, and on it was written the phrase -

"LOVE IS THE LAW, NO LAW BUT LOVE."

Then the dragon said -

"Very good."

As now his color was turning from black to grey, his eyes turning grey also.

Manu continued-

"Then on the fifth day I was attacked and wounded by three thieves, they wanted to steal my necklaces, so they struck me on the throat. A voice from within told me to use the word, so I did, and their weapons turned to serpents and killed them with poisonous bites. I found among their bodies a necklace of sixteen sky-blue colored lotus petals. That night I was cold, hungry, thirsty, and lost my ability to speak in any bold manner anymore. I looked at my stone, and new words were written upon it that said -

"MASTERY OF THE SELF-WILL."

The dragon then said-

"O' Manu, do you yet realize the meaning of the stone, or the words that are inscribed upon it?"

Manu replied-

"I've yet to figure that out."

The dragon then became a light grey color, his eyes beginning to turn white. Manu continued-

"On the sixth day of my journey, that evening I came across a great temple, and at the entrance were two great columns with globes on top of them. One looked as if it were a terrestrial globe, the other celestial. I then preceded into the temple, and met two high priest who

emblazoned upon my eyes two indigo colored petals of the lotus flower, then I was submerged in the cleansing pool, and after I got out I put on a white robe of fine linen. Then I slept and awoke to a vision of beings of light who introduced themselves as the adepts and sages of all the ages and world over. There was one among them who told me that he was a father of a nation yet unborn, and he told me to peer into my bag and pull out two circular disks. One had an unfinished pyramid on it, the other a magnificent bird with its wings outstretched. Then this being of light explained the symbolic mystery of these two disks, and told me to think about myself in this context. He then proceeded to guide me in asking for the "keys to the kingdom" and when I asked for the keys from my HIGHER-SELF, then they appeared before my very eyes. I used the keys to open the great white door that lead me here, to the summit of the mountain. I saw upon my stone in ethereal light the words -

"EYE OF THE TRUE SEER"

and behold, here I am now now waiting to meet the great white dragon."

Then the dragon asked-

"And who bears testimony to these things which you have spoken?"

Manu then proceeded to outstretch his arms and extend his hands, his left hand pointing down to the earth, his right hand pointing up towards heaven. Then the dragon became as though a stone, suspended in air, and his eyes turned gold, and from the midst of his body was emitted rays of light, and he thundered the words -

"SO IT IS DONE."

Then suddenly the dragon burst forth and his stone like body cracked open, as a bird breaking out of its shell. Then in a burst of brilliant light, the dragon was free and renewed, and behold, he had turned whiter than any white Manu had ever seen, and his scales and wings were accented with gold, and he was very big, as big as the sky itself, his wings were outstretched reaching from one corner of heaven to the other, his eyes beamed gold brilliance. At long last, Manu came face to face with the Great White Dragon!

Chapter VIII. Great guardian of the threshold.

There was thundering and lightening all about the sky, though there was not any clouds at this high elevation. Then suddenly there arose four pillars of cloud around the summit, encircling the dragon and Manu. At the top of these clouds stood mightily four great creatures in radiance of vivid colors of splendor. One looked like a man with wings of many dazzling colors, the cloud opposite of him there was a majestic lion, fierce, yet tame in countenance.

Standing upon the other two clouds there was a bull, with broad and shimmering silver, horns atop his head. Opposite the bull was a most magnificent eagle with feathers that also shimmered in the sunlight.

Together these creatures sung with the most beautiful of choruses to ever be heard the following -

"Worthy is the ONE, who was before the world begun' who shall always be, always was, and who always IS!"

Manu as he listened to their praises, was filled with a holy euphoria unlike any he had felt before. He was about to weep tears of joy at the mere sight and presence of the dragon and the four creatures. Then the Dragon spoke with a thunderous voice that shook the whole mountain to its very core, and the sky above rippled as if it were waves upon the sea, and behold! The stars themselves were dancing, just as Manu had seen in his dream. The dragon said-

"Behold Manu, now you see me with the eye of truth, for my color is black to the blind- all those who are unworthy to see or know me in truth. Now we are gathered here on this great mount in order that I may teach you the final lesson of being, that great mystery which few have ever known, and that which all the world strives to know from birth until death. It is that great and undeniable truth which all the teachings of the world have so long sought to perfect as their own, and have failed miserably, and with such failures have brought forth great sorrow upon all creatures.

You may think it is a mere coincidence that all these things have come to pass, but this is not the case at all. For it is destiny that guides those who seek it, and for those that endure till the end, just as you have, surely they shall inherit life eternal, for such is the reward for hard work,

that most noble of virtues which is **LABOR** itself. Not labor done in vain or over petty things, but labor done in the name of the **GREAT WORK**.

That great work can be said to be symbolized by the transmutation of a rough stone from its base and uncultivated nature, into a perfect ashler. The cubical stone with four points rising together to form the shape of a triangular or pyramid shape with three sides on each face. These four points or corners represent the four base elements that a man is composed of, represented by the cube, which represents the earth. The three sides of the face rising out of the cube represent the three higher principles of a man, they are the **MIND**,(Manas) the **SOUL**,(Buddhi) and the spirit,(**ATMAN**) that in turn rule a man's **THINKING**, **FEELING**, and **WILLING**, respectively. And these three principles are the trinity of the divine spark that makes up the true **SELF**, that will be raised to new life after the death of the body, because these three are eternal, having existed always in the great bosom of the **ABSOLUTE DEITY**. Thus it is said when addressing in prayer- "Unto our father who art in heaven, who is **THREE** in aspect, **ONE** in essence..." This Divine spark having emanated from that **ONE** source, is temporarily incarnated into the forms of the mineral, plant, animal, man, and deva(god). It is of course the **HIGHER SELF**, the only one who can make intercession between man with the **ABSOLUTE**. It is the only personal god whom is to be addressed and given any kind of reverence to. For the **ABSOLUTE** is not a personal god, but is an impersonal Deity whom has begotten the manifested **WORD**, and that word is the manifested logos of the objectionable world."

The Dragon continued, and at this point Manu noticed that a brilliant crown of white-gold was on the dragon's head. He also noticed that in the center of the crown was an empty slot where it appeared as if something had, or would be placed inside it. The dragon said-

" The great work is not complete until we arrive at the " great day be with us" and until then in the world of time and space, man is to live, grow, die, and be reborn again. When a man has reached the highest enlightenment he can obtain, he is said to be no longer of this world, and he 'dies', only to be reborn as a son of the true self. He may indeed continue to live in the material world for a time, but he is dead to the world of the senses, he now operates with higher senses and faculties which allow him to experience nirvanic bliss, even while still incarnated in a physical body. He is then said to be a true adept, having achieved the highest of personal

equilibrium of RIGHT thought, feeling, and action(will) in himself, he thus comes to possess the "word" and with that word he may do many great things. For he is no longer ruled by the passions or desires of his lower-self, having chosen to be indifferent to pleasure and pain, and having assumed complete mastery of his own will, and that will itself is directed and en-rapport with his higher self, who is his father who is now one with him.

Of the men who have possessed the word, they use it only ever so wisely and with care, because if the word were given unto the profane, only a select few would ever discover its proper use and meaning, that is why the secret of the word is to never be revealed to them, for it is a devastating tool put to use by unworthy and un-mastered hands."

Then Manu asked the dragon what was the meaning of the mantra he had used meant, and the dragon answered saying-

" The mantra which you spoke during the climb of this mountain, and which destroyed all obstacles in your path, is the sacred mantra -AUM NAMA SHIVAYA- which means , " I Bow to the supreme SELF " which is of course, your highest self, and in so doing you are also calling upon the name of the great destroyer of the ego, or that which is the NOT SELF, which stands in the way of growth. This force clears the path, by destroying all base things, and transmuting them into pure and holy things. That is why you witnessed all those beings fall dead before you, is because they were unfit candidates and evil mechanizations of the great illusion, that is, they were unfit aspects of your self."

Then Manu asked just what the great illusion was, and the dragon answered-

"The great illusion is the mountain itself, the mountain of the world, which is Maya. By climbing this mountain, which also represents the raising of the serpent-power, or kundalini, you have reached the summit of the great illusion, and are about to enter the one true reality. For those who possess the true vision, they will see that reality in brilliant color, and they shall never be lost in the great illusion again. For having seen the truth, they shall know it, and it will resonate in their hearts."

Then Manu asked when this great thing would occur, and the dragon answered-

"For you, this time is at hand, but there still yet remains one more thing you must see."

The dragon asked Manu -

"Reach into thy red velvet bag once more, and pull out the stone."

Manu did this, and behold! A most astonishing sight had occurred. The stone was no longer rough, but had a cubic base, and out of it rose a pyramid reaching ever upwards toward heaven. And on the stone was now inscribed in vivid and glorious color the words-

"DIVINE REASON."

And behold another thing had occurred to the stone, all the previous inscriptions were gone, and Divine Reason alone was all that was written. The stone had turned to the finest and most brilliant of emerald, which ascended to the head of the dragon, and took place in the empty slot in the crown.

There was thundering and lightening again, then the dragon asked the four creatures to tell Manu who he really was, and they answered saying-

"For thou art the author and finisher of the great work, of liberty, and are the crowned serpent of wisdom! Glory, honor, and power unto thee, everlasting ONE, who always was, is, and shall be."

Then the dragon declared the following statements about himself-

"Behold! I AM that divine ideation that was in the beginning WITH The absolute, and WAS the absolute. For I made flight over the waters of chaos, and gave birth to form, force ,and order, which results in harmony. I AM the one who made the lightening flash from heaven to earth, the former my home and father, the latter my mother and bride. My fiery breath is that which formed the worlds, and gives life to ALL creatures. I AM the one who watched over your birth, and am the one whom holds the keys to life and death, Behold! I AM TRUTH AND THE WAY OF ETERNAL LIFE, I AM the keeper and steward of the garden at the beginning and end of the world, the great guardian of the threshold!"

Then the dragon asked Manu -

"Who am I, THAT YOU SAY THAT I AM?"

He thundered, and Manu at this point came to the shocking epiphany of who the dragon truly was, and declared-

"Behold! You ARE my TRUE SELF, the only begotten word, forever my greatest and only love!"

Then the dragon said -

"At long last, you and me are ONE. Now get up my beloved, there is another thing I will show you."

And he got up, the dragon then facing the four rising suns on the eastern horizon said to Manu-

"A great mystery is concealed in the symbolism of the four suns that you see, but for you, it shall be made known- the four suns represent the four great ages of the race of men, as well as the stages of the lives of men themselves. The former being divided into certain measurements of cyclical time, being made up of vast amounts of mortal years. They get shorter and shorter as each new one dawns, the final or fourth age being the shortest, and is known as the kali-yuga, which is the final age of men in a cycle. The age when materialistic things take a precedence over what is true and holy. At the end of this age, truth shall come once more unto the hearts of men, in order that the righteous and holy shall be saved from the cycle of incarnation, and thus be set free from the great illusion.

In regards to the actual stages of man's life, the four suns represent quite simply; birth , youth, maturity, and old age, and death follows after. But for those who have been initiated, they shall not be subject unto physical death, instead they shall die a philosophical death, and likewise be philosophically reborn". Then Manu asked what was the significance of the four creatures, and the dragon responded-" The four creatures which stand upon the four corners of heaven are the four maharajahs who record and bare witness to every thought, feeling and action a man has experienced, and at the end of a man's life they are the ones who shall determine if he lived well and true in his heart and is ready to enter the land Devachan." Then he continued-"Of man in relation to the art of alchemy, it is said that he himself IS the philosophical stone, and is seen as entering the world as a rough stone.

It is by the process of initiation and illumination that a man may accelerate his growth, and can thus be turned into the purest gold, and perfected ashler. Once a man has reached the highest state of perfection, and all karmic debt has been accounted for, when he dies he is given a

choice to embark upon the last journey of the two-fold path. He may choose to reincarnate in order to serve humanity as a guide and assist in the evolution of his brothers who are still ensnared by the illusion of maya, and assist them in completing the great work, thus freeing them. Or a man may choose to enter the realm of Devachan immediately, and experience the sum total of his karmic debt only after the "Great day be with us", when after the universal pralaya has finished, he and the rest of the cycle begin in the next manvantara. However, he will experience all his most desired wishes and dreams he had in his incarnations in the nirvanic bliss that awaits him in Devachan."

Then the dragon declared the following-

"Behold my beloved son, I will show you one more thing you must see"-

and the dragon gave Manu a vision that was projected right before him, and in the vision Manu beheld the sight of the great mountain of the world collapsing into a great abyss of darkness with all the light from above being increasingly dimmed the further down it went. In the abyss Manu saw a great red dragon, scarlet-black in color and it was feasting upon men who were stuck in a black, pitchy substance at the bottom of the abyss, and Manu heard their screams of terror as the red dragon was chewing upon their flesh. And the white dragon declared unto Manu - "Behold, thou who lives in the light! See the ones whom now live in the earth , the ones who were not fortunate to know or see the truth , and by the darkness of their own corrupted thoughts, feelings, and actions, they now perish day by day In the never ending feast that their father- the great red dragon does partake in, woe unto the dead!" And Manu then asked-" why is the red dragon their father, are you not their father also?" And the dragon replied -"Yes, I am indeed their father, but they never knew me in truth, and because their thoughts were not upright, neither was their feelings or actions, when they died in life and met me here upon the summit, they were only greeted by my wrathful side, which would have devoured you if you had not known truth, but they, since being without truth, and living only according to NATURE WITHOUT REASON, they were blind to the true aspect of my self, for the light has blinded them, now they see only black, which is actually red if they had known so"

Then the dragon asked Manu-

"The time has come for you to choose, will you choose to enter Devachan which lies to the east in the land of the rising sun, or will you willingly offer up yourself as a sacrifice for the greater good, re-incarnate and serve thy fellow man as a beacon of truth?" And Manu thought about it for a while, then said the dragon-

"Either choice you make, you will arrive at Devachan, but remember this, if you choose the path of service, you will have to make one last, long journey across the great ocean, reaching that other shore that leads to Devachan."

And Manu made up his mind. The dragon knew just what path he had chosen, and said unto Manu-

"Thus this day I have perfected you through virtue, and have delivered thee out of the realm of the Demiurge, and have united thee with me forever, thus salvation is yours."

Then he said -

"AUM-MANI-PADME-HUM, behold! The Jewel in the lotus. Now in order that the great journey be made to the land Devachan, there is one last thing you must do, and that is you must leap down and fall into the world again, the world below."

And Manu looked out upon the vast horizon, facing east, then he looked down below him and noticed that all below him were a thick blanket of clouds, and the summit itself had ceased to be. Manu stood upon a small platform made of rock, below him a great abyss was all that was underneath him. The dragon then said -

"According to the law of falling bodies, a man may fall at a rate of 32 feet per second, and twice that the next, and so on. Behold SON OF MIND, HARKEN UNTO MY WISDOM! For thou knowest in thy heart the mystery to this action which you are about to make."

And Manu replied-"For the great mystery is that spirit descends into matter, in order that it may redeem itself, and be raised again to everlasting life and light."

The dragon then said-

"Thus this is how I accomplish thy salvation."

There was one last great thunder and in a burst of light the dragon disappeared, and the light from him flowed into Manu, and took residence upon his head in the form of a thousand

petaled lotus, white in color. Then Manu heard the voice of the dragon within him now, that same still small voice he recognized, and it said -

"Thus you have chosen, because **ONLY YOU WOULD SURVIVE THE FALL.**"

- The fall! Manu reached forth from the platform and dove into the abyss below...

Chapter IX. ...As one, we will conquer.

Manu fell at such great velocity that everything became as if it were a blur passing by in the blink of an eye. He fell into and past the clouds, and as he was falling he asked himself-

"How am I to fly in free fall?"

And the voice answered him saying-

" On the wings of a Phoenix."

And just as Manu was about to crash to earth, he was suddenly caught up mid fall , and he began to rise, and was carried by a great wind which blew him across the land. As he was now flying, he saw with his new vision the world below was filled with brilliant color, unlike any which he had seen before. He flew increasingly faster till he was traveling as fast as the speed of sound. He watched as he approached the soft rolling hills of green hues of splendid glory.

Then Manu came across the ocean. An ocean of tears... in the direction of the rising sun- for there was only one sun now. He flew for what seemed like forever till he arrived at the shores of Devachan. As he flew further into the blessed land, he saw a great white stone wall, and upon the wall was written the following-

"Enter the blessed land of Devachan, where no profane thing shall ever enter through its gates, and is the land of those who have been redeemed by the Great White Dragon of truth." Then Manu saw the number eleven, in pairs of three written under the guise of mysterious hieroglyphs upon the wall.

He flew passed the wall...

Chapter X. Return to the garden at the beginning of the world - Devachan

Once Manu flew over the wall he saw green meadows below him, dotted with evergreen trees, and upon the land were rivers of blue crystalline waters. Manu was slowing down in speed and came across a great field of green, and soft grass, and in this field he saw groups of human beings gathered together. Upon closer inspection Manu recognized their faces, for these were the men and women and he knew instantly who they were, they were all people whom he had known in life.

Manu finally came to a soft landing in the middle of the field, and was warmly greeted by all these loved ones. He was in a state of bliss unlike any other, for here he had even saw those whom had died in his many lives, and he was reunited with them in great reunion. They all exchanged one loving embrace after another to Manu, and they each said to him -

" Welcome home " "You're finally here, we've been waiting for you" and "This is your place of rest and rejuvenation, there is no need to make haste, take as long as you wish, and soak in every ounce of wonder that you behold here."

Everyone one was in a state of bliss, for there was no room for pain or sorrow anymore, there was only rejoicing and admiration for the truth they had all come to know.

Manu spent thousands of aeons here, for the day never ended and the land was illuminated by eternal daylight.

Manu then took rest under a giant evergreen tree that towered high into the sky, and laid down in its shade. A long time seemed to of elapsed as he was resting there under the tree, when suddenly the tree itself began to sprout flowers that were of exquisite beauty and color, and out of them sprouted fruit that had the appearance as though it were a great grape. Manu watched as the fruit grew, then when it was ripe, it fell down beside him, like gentle rain. Manu was so pleased with the sight of the fruit, he decided to eat it. As he did this he noticed a great host of the inhabitants of this blessed land coming to gather round the tree and eat its fruit which was

abundant and fed everyone. When everyone had finished eating their fruit, Manu was the last one to take the final bite, and as he finished, the sound of a great gong had begun to sound off at its striking and was heard throughout all the land...

Chapter XI. Great day be with us.

As the gong sounded out, Manu counted the times it was struck, and it rang out seven times. With each ring the sky had begun to whiten, then the sun disappeared. There was great strife in the lands outside of Devachan, but the strife never came into Devachan itself, for all who were behind its Great Wall of white stone were protected, and nothing could disturb them. Then everyone gathered around and said in glorious fashion the following-

"The time has now come for us to ascend, blessed are those who know truth, but woe unto all those outside the wall, for they shall suffer greatly for their lack of life-saving wisdom that has been imparted into us, the redeemed."

Manu knew just what was going on- the Great day be with us had arrived, the fullness of cyclical time was coming to a close, and he knew that he was to ascend into the great reality at long last.

At the strike of the seventh sounding of the gong, everyone's bodies were transformed into spheres of light, and they ascended upwards into the starless sky. Up and up they went, Manu himself was leading the host of luminescent bodies until they came to a great black void in the sky, and in the this void there was a brilliant ring of light within the darkness. The ring had these words written around it that said -"Pass not" prior to this day, this is the message that would have been seen, but on the great day be with us, these words faded out of sight. The ring of light itself was in the image of an ouroboros, with the mouth of the serpent swallowing its tail, and in between the mouth was the symbol of the svastika , representing the eternal cycle. Within the

ring itself was a symbol that represented eternal life, in the shape of a Tau cross with a circle on top. The ouroboros itself representing eternal regeneration.

All the spheres of light passed through the ring, and Manu was the last one to enter, but before he did, he heard the voice within him again say the following-"And here it is now, one point, one moment left in time before the closure ...We know who we are...we are destiny. Go."

Manu entered the ring to be absorbed into the everlasting absolute reality , and finally the dragon said to him -"TRUTH has made us FREE."

And thus the great work was consummated, at long last, they were free and immortal for all eternity and beyond.

Epilogue.

*W*hat became of Manu after he passed into the ring of light is up to anyone's imagination. What we do know or all that we can know is that he escaped the great illusion, Maya, and was a perfected human being, nay, even a god at this point.

He escapes into the waves...the waves.

End.

Thus destiny was born on the eighth day.

